

1 Claims
2

3 1. In a computer system having; a file system that controls reads and
4 writes to a set of disks, a RAID subsystem providing redundancy among groups of said
5 disks, and wherein said file system or said RAID subsystem is responsive to inactivity of
6 one or more disks to reconstruct data from those inactive disks; a method, including
7 identifying one or more disks to be made temporarily inactive;
8 responding, by said file system, to said identification by marking said
9 identified disks read-only; and
10 indicating when said inactive disks are made active again.

11
12
13 2. The method of claim 1, wherein said identifying includes a systems
14 operator or the system itself determining that one or more disks are to be made temporar-
15 ily inactive.

16
17 3. The method of claim 1, wherein said marking includes recording in
18 one of a set of off-line markers that said disk is read only.

19
20 4. The method of claim 3, wherein one each of said off-line markers is
21 associated with a disk in said RAID subsystem.

an instruction for responding, by said file system, to said identification by marking said identified disks read-only; and
an instruction for indicating when said inactive disks are made active again.

10. The apparatus of claim 9, wherein said instruction for identifying instruction initiated by a systems operator or the system itself for determining more disks are to be made temporarily inactive.

11. The apparatus of claim 9, wherein said marking includes an instruction for recording in one of a set of off-line markers that said disk is read only.

12. The apparatus of claim 11, wherein one each of said off-line markers is associated with a disk in said RAID subsystem.

13. The apparatus of claim 12, wherein said set of off-line markers in-

cludes a set of binary addresses.

14. The apparatus of claim 9, wherein said instruction for indicating instruction initiated by a systems operator or the system itself for determining more inactivated disks should be reactivated.

1 15. The apparatus of claim 14, wherein said instruction for indicating
2 further includes an instruction for identifying the disk or disks to the system that should
3 be reactivated.

4

5 16. The method of claim 15, wherein the off-line marker bit associated
6 with said disk is cleared allowing said disk to be active and enabled for read/write without
7 reconstruction of data within said RAID subsystem.

8

9 17. A processor readable medium said medium encoded with data in a
10 data structure including a set of binary addresses wherein each one of said binary ad-
11 dresses is linked to a set of disks in a RAID subsystem.

12
13
14